

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03  
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00  
NSC-05 /077 W  
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R 291732Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5148  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USMISSION USNATO  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MADRID 07366

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINE ADDED TO PARA 2)

E.O. 11652 XGDS-1  
TAGS: PEPR, SP, US  
SUBJECT: UCD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBEES ON NATO

1. SUMMARY: UCD COORDINATION SECRETARY ARIAS  
SALGADO ON JUNE 27 BECAME THE FIRST UCD LEADER TO  
OUR KNOWLEDGE TO ALLUDE EXPLICITLY TO THE "NECESSSTY"  
OF FINDING A FORMULA FOR SPANISH NATO MEMBERSHIP  
"WITH WHICH THEY (THE LEFT) WOULD NOT RADICALLY  
DISAGREE." UCD INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY JAVIER  
RUPEREZ, IN A PRIVATE JUNE 28 CONVERSATION, DISAGREED  
WITH ARIAS SALGADO'S AAPROACH, WHICH HE BELIEVED  
PERMITTED THE PSOE AND PCE OVERLY TO CONDITION SPANISH  
ACCESSION. THIS DISAGGEEMENT INDICATES AGAIN THAT  
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SUAREZ HAS YET TO MAKE HIS DECISION ON THE NATO QUESTION,  
OR AT LEAST TO COMMUNICATE IT TO HIS EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

2. SPEAKING TO A JUNE 27 MEETING OF MADRID'S DIILOMATIC  
CLUB, UCD SECRETARY FOR COORDINATION RAFAEL ARIAS  
SALGADO WAS MORE EXPLICIT ABOUT THE POSSIBLE MODALITIES

FOR REACHING THE DECISION ON SPANISH NATO MEMBERSHIP THAN OTHER GOVT/UCD LEADERS (EXCEPT RUPEREZ) HAVE BEEN. ACCORDING TO ARIAS SALGADO, UCD CONTINUES TO SUPPORT SPANISH ACCESSION TO THE ALLIANCE, AND BELIEVES THAT THE PARTIES SHOULD INCLUDE IN THEIR NEXT ELECTORAL PLATFORMS THEIR POSITIONS ON THE NATO ISSUE. UCD, WHICH ARIAS SALGADO FELT CERTAIN WOULD WIN THE NEXT ELECTIONS, WHENEVER THEY WERE HELD, WOULD THEN CONSIDER ITS VICTORY A MANDATE TO PUSH FORWARD WITH SPANISH ACCESSION.

3. UCD WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, ATTEMPT EVEN AFTER ELECTIONS TO RAM THROUGH A PRO-NATO VOTE IN THE PARLIAMENT OVER THE RESISTANCE OF THE LEFT PARTIES, THE PSOE AND THE PCE. INSTEAD, AND BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A BASIC POLITICAL CONSENSUS, UCD WOULD CONSULT WITH THE PSOE AND PCE TO FIND A FORMULA FOR SPANISH NATO MEMBERSHIP "WITH WHICH THEY WOULD NOT RADICALLY DISAGREE." ARIAS SALGADO REITERATED THIS FORMULATION LATER IN THE MEETING, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM A SOVIET DIPLOMAT IN ATTENDANCE.

4. WHEN THIS MATTER WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RAISED BY ADCM AND POL/MIL COUNSELOR WITH UCD INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY JAVIER RUPEREZ, WHO HAS SUPPORTED FULL SPANISH NATO MEMBERSHIP, AND SCHEDULING OF THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE  
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THIS FALL, SOON AFTER THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM, RUPEREZ CONFIRMED HE DID NOT AGREE WITH ARIAS SALGADO THAT UCD SHOULD WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE NEXT ROUND OF ELECTIONS TO RAISE THE NATO ISSUE IN PARLIAMENT. (HE APPARENTLY HAD HAD NO FOREWARNING OF ARIAS SALGADO'S INTENT TO ANNOUNCE SUCH A POSITION.) RUPEREZ ALSO DID NOT SHARE ARIAS SALGADO'S VIEW OF THE NECESSITY OF REACHING SOME MEETING OF THE MINDS WITH THE LEFT, BELIEVING INSTEAD THAT UCD SHOULD MOVE AHEAD ON THE NATO QUESTION, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THOSE WHO ARE NATURAL ALLIES ON THIS ISSUE: THE CATALAN AND BASQUE MINORITIES AND FRAGA'S AP. FINALLY, RUPEREZ AGREED WITH US THAT ANY ATTEMPT AT INCOMPLETE SPANISH INTEGRATION IN THE ALLIANCE -- WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN WHAT ARIAS SALGADO WAS IMPLYING -- SIMPLY WAS NOT VIABLE, IN VIEW OF THE MANY PROBLEMS IT WOULD ENGENDER.

5. COMMENT: IN A NUMBER OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON NATO, FONMIN OREJA AND OTHER GOS AND UCD LEADERS HAVE ALLUDED

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MADRID 07366

TO THE NEED FOR SPAIN TO DEFINE THE SPECIFIC NATURE OF  
ITS FUTURE NATO PARTICIPATION. BUT ARIAS SALGADO'S  
EXPLICIT EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO REACH SOME COMPROMISE  
SOLUTION WITH THE LEFT IS A NEW WRINKLE, AND MAY  
REFLECT THE POINT OF VIEW OF SECOND VICE PRESIDENT  
ABRIL, TO WHOM HE IS VERY CLOSE. IN VIEW OF RUPEREZ'  
DISAGREEMENT WITH ARIAS SALGADO, IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW  
WIDELY SHARED THIS PERSPECTIVE IS WITHIN THE UCD LEADER-  
SHIP, NOR WAS IT ENTIRELY CLEAR FROM ARIAS SALGADO'S  
PRESENTATION WHAT HE THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE TO BRING THE .  
LEFT ALONG. THE POSSIBILITIES MIGHT RANGE FROM A  
PROHIBITION ON THE STATIONING OF FOREIGN TROOPS ON  
SPANISH SOIL, THROUGH A REFUSAL TO EMPLOY SPANISH  
TROOPS ANYWHERE OUTSIDE SPAIN, TO SOME FORMULA FOR LESS  
THAN COMPLETE INTEGRATION OF SPAIN IN THE ALLIANCE,  
ALTHOUGH IT IS FAR FROM CLEAR AT THIS JUNCTURE THAT ANY  
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OF THESE CONCESSIONS WOULD BE A SUFFICIENT SWEETENER FOR  
THE LEFT. IN ANY CASE, THE DIFFERENT SIGNALS WHICH CON-

TINUE TO EMANATE FROM UCD ON THIS ISSUE INDICATE THAT  
SUAREZ STILL HAS MADE NO FINAL DECISION ON NATO, EITHER  
IN TERMS OF THE TIMING OF THE DEBATE OR ITS SUBSTANCE.  
IN APRIL HE TOLD THE PRESS NATO MEMBERSHIP IS THE  
"BEST SOLUTION", BUT NOT THE ONLY ONE. HE SPECIFICALLY  
LEFT OPEN THE QUESTION OF THE PRECISE FORM OF SPAIN'S  
MILITARY INTEGRATION IN THE ALLIANCE (MADRID 4236,  
DTG 201142Z APR 78). EATON

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** ALLIANCE, COMMITTEES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**TAGS:** PEPR, SP, US, NATO, UCD  
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